

With the recent implementation of FATCA, the nebulous nature of just who the State Department considers to be a "US person" has been thoroughly revealed. Because of citizenship based taxation policy, the United States has portrayed itself as an international bully in its overreaching attempts to interfere in the private lives of people living in foreign countries, mainly through what is essentially extortion. Some of these people have never lived in the US, were not born in the US and have not worked in the US, yet are considered "US persons". When the US State Department INA starts bestowing unwanted citizenship on people, that's one thing. It's another thing far more egregious when the IRS decides to take advantage of the vagaries of the INA to start trolling for money in foreign jurisdictions because of citizenship based taxation. It is past time for the US to join the rest of the world and adopt resident based taxation. Lastly, the entire FATCA machine is so unwieldy, vague, expensive and in many cases ineffective, it's a wonder it was even adopted.

Jim